Public Notice – Environmental Project

PURPOSE OF NOTICE:

The Department of Environmental Quality seeks public comment on the state's response to the environmental aspects of a proposed project in cities of Portsmouth and Norfolk, Virginia.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD:

July 10, 2009 to August 4, 2009

TYPE OF RESPONSE:

Federal Consistency Determination

DEQ is reviewing a proposed federal construction activity to determine if it is consistent with the U.S. Coastal Zone Management Act. The act seeks to protect the quality of air, water or other natural resources in Virginia's coastal area.

NAME OF AGENCY PROPOSING THE PROJECT:

DOD/U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The Norfolk District of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) has submitted a Federal Consistency Determination (FCD) for the proposed eastward expansion of the Craney Island Dredged Material Management Area (CIDMMA) and the development of a container terminal by the Virginia Port Authority (VPA). The FCD is contained in a National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Environmental Assessment (EA) submitted by the Corps to provide supplemental information to the 2006 Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS). The proposed project is located in the Port of Hampton Roads between the cities of Portsmouth and Norfolk, and consists of the construction of a 522-acre dredge disposal cell on the east side of CIDMMA. Once filled, the new cell would be turned over to VPA for the construction of a new marine terminal. The FCD finds that, while the proposal would likely affect uses and natural resources administered under the federally-approved enforceable policies of the Virginia Coastal Resources Management Program (VCP) (also called the Virginia Coastal Zone Management Program), through appropriate mitigation measures the proposal can be conducted in a manner that is consistent to the maximum extent practicable with the VCP.

HOW TO COMMENT:

DEQ accepts comments from the public by e-mail, fax or postal mail. All comments must include the name, address and telephone number of the person commenting and be received by DEQ within the comment period. The public may review the project documents at DEQ's central office in Richmond.

CONTACT FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS, DOCUMENT REQUESTS AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

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